WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Conessions to senior citizens

1150. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
be pleased to state:

(a) whether concessions in fare hitherto given to senior citizens have become meaningless with the imposition of new rules by abolishing single fare tickets and requiring advance bookings;

(b) if so, the reasons for imposing new curbs on the travel by senior citizens; and

(c) whether a senior citizen is unable to travel at short notice and is forced to pay full fare under the existing rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As there is no advance booking requirement on Air India, the senior citizen may travel even at short notice, subject of course to availability of seats. As regards Indian Airlines, w.e.f. 7th July, 2003, Senior Citizens are required to purchase confirmed ticket at least 7 days in advance of travel date in order to avail concession journeys.

Upgradation of airports

1151. SHRI C. PERUMAL:
SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the civil aviation sector is poised for overall growth over the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to upgrade 30 airports in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and